

1. (Three Times Amended) A polymer blend comprising:

I. from 80 to 97.5 weight % of a semi-crystalline polyester, which comprises the residues of

(A) a dicarboxylic acid component comprising repeat units from at least about 80 mole % of terephthalic acid, isophthalic acid, naphthalene-2,6-dicarboxylic acid or a mixture thereof; and

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(B) a glycol component comprising repeat units from at least about 85 mole % ethylene glycol,

wherein components A) and B) are based on 100 mole % dicarboxylic acid and 100 mole % of glycol; and

II. from 20 to 2.5 weight % of a low molecular weight polyamide, having a number average molecular weight of less than about 15,000, having the repeating unit A-D, wherein A is the residue of a dicarboxylic acid comprising adipic acid, isophthalic acid, terephthalic acid, 1,4-cyclohexanedicarboxylic, resorcinol dicarboxylic acid, or naphthalenedicarboxylic acid, or a mixture thereof, and D is a residue of a diamine comprising *m*-xylylene diamine, *p*-xylylene diamine, hexamethylene diamine, ethylene diamine, or 1,4-cyclohexanedimethylamine, or a mixture thereof,

~~wherein components I and II total 100 weight % of the polymer blend.~~

14.

(Three Times Amended) A method for reducing gas permeability of polyester comprising blending:

- C2, contd
- I. from 80 to 97.5 weight % of a semi-crystalline polyester, which comprises the residues of:
- (A) a dicarboxylic acid component comprising repeat units from at least about 85 mole % of terephthalic acid, naphthalene-2,6-dicarboxylic acid or a mixture thereof; and
- (B) a glycol component comprising repeat units from at least about 85 mole % ethylene glycol,

wherein components A) and B) are based on 100 mole % dicarboxylic acid and 100 mole % of glycol; and

- II. from 20 to 2.5 weight % of a low molecular weight polyamide having a number average molecular weight of less than about 15,000 having the repeating unit A-D, wherein A is the residue of a dicarboxylic acid comprising adipic acid, isophthalic acid, terephthalic acid, 1,4-cyclohexanedicarboxylic, resorcinol dicarboxylic acid, or naphthalenedicarboxylic acid, or a mixture thereof, and D is the residue of a diamine comprising *m*-xylylene diamine, *p*-xylylene diamine, hexamethylene diamine, ethylene diamine, or 1,4-cyclohexanedimethylamine, or a mixture thereof,

wherein components I and II total 100 weight % of the polymer blend.

14 20. (Amended) A polymer blend comprising:

- C3 contd
- I. from about 80 to about 97 weight % of a semi-crystalline polyester, which comprises the residues of

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- (A) a dicarboxylic acid component comprising repeat units from at least about 80 mole % of terephthalic acid, isophthalic acid, naphthalene-2,6-dicarboxylic acid or a mixture thereof; and
 - (B) a glycol component comprising repeat units from at least about 85 mole % ethylene glycol,

wherein components A) and B) are based on 100 mole % dicarboxylic acid and 100 mole % of glycol; and

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- II. from about 20 to about 3 weight %, having a number average molecular weight of less than about 15,000, having the repeating unit A-D, wherein A is the residue of a dicarboxylic acid comprising adipic acid, isophthalic acid, terephthalic acid, 1,4-cyclohexanedicarboxylic, resorcinol dicarboxylic acid, or naphthalenedicarboxylic acid, or a mixture thereof, and D is a residue of a diamine comprising *m*-xylylene diamine, *p*-xylylene diamine, hexamethylene diamine, ethylene diamine, or 1,4-cyclohexanedimethylamine, or a mixture thereof,

wherein components I and II total 100 weight % of the polymer blend.

15 21. (Amended) A method for reducing gas permeability of polyester comprising blending:

- I. from about 80 to about 97 weight % of a semi-crystalline polyester, which comprises the residues of:

- (A) a dicarboxylic acid component comprising repeat units from at least about 85 mole % of terephthalic acid, naphthalene-2,6-dicarboxylic acid or a mixture thereof; and
- (B) a glycol component comprising repeat units from at least about 85 mole % ethylene glycol,

wherein components A) and B) are based on 100 mole % dicarboxylic acid and 100 mole % of glycol; and

- II. from about 20 to about 3 weight %, having a number average molecular weight of less than about 15,000, having the repeating unit A-D, wherein A is the residue of a dicarboxylic acid comprising adipic acid, isophthalic acid, terephthalic acid, 1,4-cyclohexanedicarboxylic, resorcinol dicarboxylic acid, or naphthalenedicarboxylic acid, or a mixture thereof, and D is a residue of a diamine comprising *m*-xylylene diamine, *p*-xylylene diamine, hexamethylene diamine, ethylene diamine, or 1,4-cyclohexanedimethylamine, or a mixture thereof,

wherein components I and II total 100 weight % of the polymer blend.

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22.

(Amended) An article comprising a polymer blend comprising:

- I. from 80 to 97.5 weight % of a semi-crystalline polyester, which comprises the residues of
- (A) a dicarboxylic acid component comprising repeat units from at least about 80 mole % of terephthalic acid, naphthalene-2,6-dicarboxylic acid or a mixture thereof; and